



A Unit of Fox Television

TO: Public File
FROM: Marti Brdar
DATE: January 10, 2007
SUBJ: Quarterly Report – Fourth Quarter 2006

Attached is a description of WJW Television news programming addressing the key concerns and issues of this community during the period of October 1, 2006 through December 31, 2006.

During the fourth quarter of 2006 the following issues were addressed by WJW.

- Government
- Local Government
- Local Election Issues
- Consumer Information/Health & Safety
- Crime
- Crime/Children
- Family/Social Welfare

A list of Public Service Announcements is also attached.

WJW TELEVISION
Cleveland/Northeast Ohio
FOX Television Stations, Inc.
October 1 – December 31, 2006

FOX 8 News is WJW's primary local means of educating the public. A team of reporters work throughout the week to produce a series of newscasts featuring daily news as well as insight into key problems and issues. (60 minutes, Monday through Friday 5:00 am, 6:00 a.m., 7:00 a.m., 8:00 a.m., 30 minutes at 12 Noon, 60 minutes at 5:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.; 30 minutes Saturdays and 60 minutes Sundays 6:00 p.m. and 60 minutes at 10:00 p.m., and 60 minutes at 8:00 a.m. on Sunday.

GOVERNMENT

Issue: Governor's Race

News	October 4, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 1:58	Local
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Democratic candidate for governor Ted Strickland and his Republican opponent Ken Blackwell faced off in their third televised debate. Tonight's topic of debate is the economy. First question is how to produce jobs in a state that's had below average job growth. Blackwell has said he will cut taxes across the board which he contends will bring more money to the state. Both agree the economy is in bad shape, desperate for change; the question is who has the better plan?

The candidates have at least one more debate scheduled for October 16 in Columbus although they have not agreed on a place or time.

Additional reports

News	October 5, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 1:46	Local
News	October 5, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 0:55	Local
News	October 5, 2006	Noon	TRT 1:00	Local

News	October 6, 2006	6:00PM	TRT 2:06	Local
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There is a political role reversal in this week's governor debate and it has to do with tax reform. While Democrat Strickland applauds the work of Bob Taft and the Republican legislature, the GOP nominee Ken Blackwell would trash the plan in his first 100 days as governor. Blackwell promises to make Taft's five year tax cut effective immediately and then phase in a flat tax rate of 3.25%.

Ted Strickland says Ohio business leaders don't want another big change before they've absorbed the details of the most significant tax reform in 50 years. So the Democratic front runner will defend a tax plan lawmakers in his party trashed. The Republican challenger hopes to close the gap, with the message his party blew it on taxes.

News	October 8, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 2:15	Local
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Ohio spends more money on education than any other function of government. Ted Strickland says he'll end Ohio's over reliance on property taxes and equalize funding for students no matter where they live. Methodist minister Strickland offers no specifics on how he'll equalize school funding, just a commitment to make it happen.

Ken Blackwell also promises to bring Ohio into compliance with the Supreme Court school funding ruling. Former treasurer Blackwell is pushing a plan to require 65% of every school's budget be spent in the classroom. He says janitors and cafeteria workers can be provided cheaper by contract labor in the private sector. Blackwell says his savings will spawn high quality and constitutional education in Ohio.

News	October 10, 2006	6:00PM	TRT 1:29	Local
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Illinois Senator Barack Obama, the speaker who wowed Democrats at their convention in 2004, spoke at the Martin Luther King Center with Ted Strickland moments ago. Obama's mission is to keep black voters with the Democratic ticket. Obama says a poor economy and war in Iraq have caused a national mood swing. He says Strickland's energy independence plan using Ohio coal and corn can create jobs and fight terrorism. Obama told the packed auditorium Republicans are heading for defeat because they've been arrogant with power.

News	October 15, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 2:23	Local
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This morning we continue our weekly series with the major candidates for governor. Today's topic is the health care, the fastest growing expense in Ohio's budget. Health care facilities in Ohio are world class. Everyone here benefits because of excellent treatment options. But we all pay the bill, as taxpayers and as health care consumers. Democrat Ted Strickland and Republican Ken Blackwell agree that health care for uninsured Ohioans costs too much. Blackwell says their care is too often delivered in the costly emergency room setting because cheaper preventative medicine is not an option. Strickland says he'll subsidize the health insurance payments of Ohioans who don't qualify for Medicaid, using unspent federal welfare funds. Strickland says he'll also establish a group insurance program for small companies.

Blackwell says he'll make Medicaid a separate state agency, use the latest information technology to cut costs, and turn auditors loose to eliminate fraud. Both candidates expect to create synergy between their health care and economic development programs.

News	October 16, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 2:22	Local
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Sexual predators emerge as the only new issue in this last debate between Blackwell and Strickland. At issue is a resolution in Congress condemning a psychological study indicating sex between adults and children does not always produce lasting damage for children. The North American Man Boy Love Association used the study as an argument for easing of laws against consensual sex between adults and children. The congressional resolution said the House of Representatives would not change any laws on sex between adults and children.

Democrats say Blackwell's late campaign charge will drive moderates to them. Republicans say when Ohioans know Strickland's record his lead will evaporate. Campaign experts expect this final stretch run to bring an onslaught of negative tv commercials.

Additional reports

News	October 17, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 1:00	Local
News	October 17, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local
News	October 17, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 1:15	Local
News	October 17, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 1:00	Local

News	October 22, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 2:20	Local
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Corruption at the Statehouse is setting the campaign climate in this year's race for Ohio governor. Former Lucas County Republican Chairman Tom Noe is charged with stealing millions from the coin fund he managed for BWC. The former chief financial officer at the Bureau of Workers Compensation was convicted of taking bribes from brokers. There was a loss of \$215 million in a BWC bond fund run by politically connected campaign contributor. Attacking corruption is at the heart of Democrat Ted Strickland's campaign message. His proposed solution is simple, throw out the Republicans.

The GOP candidate, Secretary of State Ken Blackwell says his plan to cut the size of government will eliminate the opportunity for corruption. Blackwell says he's the only candidate with the experience to tame Ohio's bureaucrats and cut the spending that attracts corruption.

Polls tell us people are hot about the scandal they've seen at the statehouse. In fact, 83% say ending Statehouse corruption is a very important issue in deciding their vote for governor.

News	November 5, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 1:50	Local
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The Blackwell and Strickland campaigns end as they began with contrasting strategies to win Ohio's top office. Blackwell says the election Tuesday is all about who turns out to vote. Blackwell says the volunteers here at Ohio Republican headquarters have a track record of turning out more voters than the pollsters predict. The entire Ohio Democratic ticket turned out for a pep rally in this Columbus church. Ted Strickland told his supporters he has been lifted by their efforts and victory is coming on Tuesday, if they simply go to the polls and vote. Strickland and Blackwell will be cover the state again tomorrow urging supporters to get out to the polls.

Additional reports

News	November 6, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 0:50	Local
News	November 6, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local
News	November 6, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local
News	November 6, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 0:35	Local
News	November 6, 2006	Noon	TRT 0:45	Local
News	November 6, 2006	5:00PM	TRT 1:35	Local

News	November 7, 2006	5:00PM	TRT 1:55	Local
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Democrats have not elected a governor since 1986, but Ted Strickland has led the polls since the primary and his supporters expect to win tonight. This governor's race is the most expensive in Ohio history with \$27 million spent between the two candidates.

Suzanne Stratford is live at the state Republican campaign center where the candidates say a get out the vote drive will surprise pollsters. They're trying to stay optimistic but the fact remains that Secretary of State Blackwell has been lagging in the polls.

Additional reports

News	November 7, 2006	6:00PM	TRT 2:10	Local
News	November 7, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 3:50	Local
News	November 7, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 3:00	Local

News	November 8, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 2:15	Local
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For the first time since 1986, Ohio has elected a Democratic governor. Ted Strickland took 60% of the vote, easily defeating Secretary of State Ken Blackwell, who pulled only 37%. Strickland was able to capitalize on Republican scandal, including the ethics violation charges against Governor Taft and the Coingate scandal involving GOP fundraiser Tom Noe. Strickland also points to the perceived condition of the economy as a major sticking point for voters.

Additional reports

News	November 8, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local
News	November 8, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 1:00	Local
News	November 8, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 1:50	Local
News	November 8, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 0:55	Local
News	November 8, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 0:55	Local
News	November 8, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local
News	November 8, 2006	Noon	TRT 0:50	Local

News	November 8, 2006	5:00PM	TRT 1:33	Local
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Governor-elect Ted Strickland meets with campaign volunteers today, thanking them for his victory. Strickland says he feels no euphoria in victory, just a sense of responsibility to turn around Ohio's economy. Governor-elect Strickland says the first priority is uniting Ohio. Strickland says Governor Taft is helping with that goal, pledging to have a transition with respect and civility that heals the wounds of a bitter campaign. Governor elect Strickland says one of his key job creation plans is working with Senator-elect Sherrod Brown on alternative energy development.

Additional reports

News	November 8, 2006	6:00PM	TRT 1:15	Local
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News	November 15, 2006	Noon	TRT 0:20	Local
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Governor-elect Ted Strickland will be sworn in on January 8, but Ohio State could be playing for the national championship on that night. A large inaugural event will be held on January 13.

Issue: Senate Race

News	October 1, 2006	6:00PM	TRT 0:50	Local
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Incumbent Senator Mike DeWine and his Democratic challenger, Congressman Sherrod Brown, faced off on "Meet the Press". Their views on the war in Iraq took center stage. Brown accused DeWine of failing to hold the White House accountable as a member of the Senate Intelligence Committee. Senator DeWine insisted we cannot set a timetable for troop withdrawals. Both men agreed the U.S. needs to step up training and equipping Iraq's police and military forces. A new Plain Dealer poll finds DeWine and Brown in a virtual tie.

Additional reports

News	October 1, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 1:05	Local
News	October 2, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 1:10	Local
News	October 2, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 0:50	Local
News	October 2, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 2:00	Local
News	October 2, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 0:50	Local
News	October 2, 2006	Noon	TRT 1:00	Local

News	October 18, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 3:11	FOX
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Fox News Reporter Carl Cameron was here to take a closer look at one of the toughest races in the nation. This is race for Senate between DeWine and Brown. The seven term reliably liberal Congressman Sherrod Brown from suburban Cleveland leads the polls in a nasty bid to oust two term Republican incumbent Senator Mike DeWine.

One day after Republicans angrily denied a front-page New York Times story claiming the GOP is pulling out of Ohio and writing off DeWine, the conservative 12 year senate veteran came out swinging. The Republican National party debuts a new ad today for DeWine attacking Brown for non-payment of unemployment taxes.

DeWine trails by double digits in the latest Quinnipiac poll, but is within the margin of error in a University of Cincinnati, Ohio poll. Democrats need to win 6 out of the 7 vulnerable GOP seats for the Senate majority, but national Republicans instead of being in a defensive crouch are going on offense and trying to expand the battlefield, with nearly \$2 million in attack ads on Democrats in the blue states of New Jersey, Maryland and Michigan.

Brown says DeWine has backed Bush policies that have backfired particularly on security. DeWine and the GOP have more money and better organization for the stretch. Energizing Republicans may prove tough after a string of federal and state scandals involving a Republican governor, fundraiser, and Congressman in Ohio.

News	October 19, 2006	6:00PM	TRT 2:15	Local
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U.S. Senate candidates Mike DeWine and Sherrod Brown are in a war of words. It's all about an old tax bill and controversial tv ads. Sherrod Brown is under attack over a \$1,776 lien for unpaid unemployment taxes, but the key fact in this ad for DeWine isn't true. Actually state officials say Sherrod Brown paid his unemployment tax four months after the lien was filed. Mike DeWine has been notified. DeWine says the RNC ad is fair and should continue to run because the basic charge is true. Sherrod Brown has fired back against DeWine with his own ad.
Additional reports

News	October 20, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 2:10	Local
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News	October 19, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 1:15	Local/WTVG
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U.S. senate candidates Mike DeWine and Sherrod Brown face off in Toledo. The first question was the war in Iraq, and the war on terror. Things got heated when the candidates were asked about the recent Republican party ad, accusing Sherrod Brown of waiting years to pay an unemployment tax bill. The candidates will debate one more time on October 27 in Cleveland. One national poll has Brown leading by as much as 12 percentage points. A University of Cincinnati poll has the lead at only 4 points.
Additional reports

News	October 20, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local
News	October 20, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local
News	October 20, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local
News	October 20, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 1:10	Local
News	October 20, 2006	Noon	TRT 1:09	Local
News	October 20, 2006	5:00PM	TRT 1:30	Local
News	October 20, 2006	6:00PM	TRT 1:38	Local

News	October 23, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 2:30	Local
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There is a big boost tonight for Ohio Democrats in Columbus as former President Bill Clinton is in town for a fund-raiser and pep rally for Senate candidate Sherrod Brown. Former President Bill Clinton unleashed a 40 minute high energy ad-lib speech on why Ohio needs to elect Democrats in 15 days. Clinton says Ohio's economy is stagnating because ruling Republicans are not creating new jobs or enforcing trade laws. Clinton says Sherrod Brown and Ted Strickland will work together to make Ohio the silicon valley of alternative energy and turn the state around.

Clinton says U.S. policy will move toward Brown's position to leave Iraq, no matter who wins the election. Bill Clinton told his audience of committed Democrats they can win the support of independents and even Republicans who would never have dreamed of voting for a Democrat. Clinton says voters want change and nearly everyone is willing to listen to Democratic options.

News October 27, 2006 5:00PM TRT 1:49 Local
 It was their liveliest and final debate. DeWine portrayed Brown as on the fringe, out of touch and ineffective. DeWine says he's not involved in any scandals, but he drew hisses and boos from the Democrat's supporters when he sought to link Brown with several employees drug use while he was Ohio Secretary of State. Brown says the two term Republican Senator sold out the middle class. Brown also accused DeWine of running a nastier campaign.

A measure of the interest in this race is today's forum drew more than a thousand people. In the storied 100 year history of the City Club this is their largest crowd ever.

Additional reports

News October 27, 2006 6:00PM TRT 2:15 Local
 News October 27, 2006 10:00PM TRT 0:50 Local

News October 31, 2006 6:00PM TRT 2:30 Local
 Former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani spent the day campaigning with Senator Mike DeWine. The man who steered new York through the 9-11 attack says it's up to Ohio voters to keep the terrorists on the defensive. Giuliani says Sherrod Brown's votes against the Patriot Act, allowing phone taps and information sharing between law enforcement and national security, would leave America vulnerable to terrorist attack.

Mike DeWine says the Patriot Act is a big reason why America has not been hit by terrorists in the five years since 9-11. The Patriot Act vote is clearly going to be the theme of DeWine's closing push in the campaign to keep his Senate seat. Why did Sherrod Brown vote against the act twice? Brown says the Homeland Security program makes it hard for grandmothers to use the airports but leaves 90% of the cargo shipped into the country uninspected.

Additional reports

News October 31, 2006 10:00PM TRT 2:00 Local
 News November 1, 2006 5:00AM TRT 1:00 Local
 News November 1, 2006 6:00AM TRT 2:05 Local
 News November 1, 2006 7:00AM TRT 0:55 Local
 News November 1, 2006 8:00AM TRT 0:45 Local
 News November 1, 2006 Noon TRT 0:45 Local

News November 2, 2006 6:00PM TRT 2:08 Local
 The Senate race between Republican Mike DeWine and Democratic challenger Sherrod Brown is one of the key races in the nation. Norm Coleman Republican Senator from Minnesota is here to support DeWine. Sherrod Brown brought Illinois Senator Dick Durbin here recently. The poll by the opinion research corporation showed Sherrod Brown with 54% and Mike DeWine trailing with 43%.

News November 4, 2006 10:00PM TRT 1:50 Local
 It's three days until the November election, and candidates are pulling out all the stops. Tonight U.S. Senator Barack Obama is in town, stumping for Ohio's top Democratic candidates. Both Brown and Strickland are ahead in the latest polls, and tonight, they want to make sure they keep it that way.

Additional reports

News November 4, 2006 10:00PM TRT 1:25 Local
 News November 5, 2006 8:00AM TRT 1:15 Local

News November 5, 2006 6:00PM TRT 1:55 Local
 The senate race in Ohio is heating up and getting nastier. Sherrod Brown scheduled rallies today in Columbus and Zanesville. Senator DeWine campaigned in Rocky River, Youngstown and Cuyahoga Falls.

Additional reports

News November 5, 2006 10:00PM TRT 1:05 Local
 News November 5, 2006 5:00AM TRT 1:00 Local
 News November 5, 2006 6:00AM TRT 0:50 Local
 News November 5, 2006 7:00AM TRT 0:45 Local
 News November 5, 2006 8:00AM TRT 0:35 Local
 News November 5, 2006 Noon TRT 0:40 Local

News November 6, 2006 6:00PM TRT 2:27 Local
 All of the major candidates are talking about the Ohio poll out today. Democrats Ted Strickland and Sherrod Brown saying don't get over confident and neglect to vote. The University of Cincinnati Ohio poll shows Congressman Sherrod Brown leading 56% to 44%. The Ohio poll says Ted Strickland leads Ken Blackwell by 59% to 37%. The candidates are all talking to their base voters in their own political party. This poll shows independent voters swinging heavily to Democrats, but independents often skip voting in non-presidential elections.

Additional reports

News November 7, 2006 10:00PM TRT 0:55 Local
 News November 7, 2006 6:00AM TRT 1:05 Local
 News November 7, 2006 8:00AM TRT 0:45 Local

News November 7, 2006 5:00PM TRT 1:55 Local
 Congressman Brown cast his vote this morning at a library in Avon. Brown believes he'll beat Senator Mike DeWine because he feels Ohioans want a change in leadership and change of direction in Ohio and across the nation.

Additional reports

News November 7, 2006 6:00PM TRT 2:10 Local
 News November 7, 2006 10:00PM TRT 6:50 Local

News November 8, 2006 5:00AM TRT 1:40 Local
 Democratic Congressman Sherrod Brown defeated the Republican in the race for the senate seat. The final numbers show Brown defeating DeWine by a 56% to 44% margin.

Additional reports

News November 8, 2006 6:00AM TRT 2:05 Local
 News November 8, 2006 7:00AM TRT 0:55 Local
 News November 8, 2006 7:00AM TRT 0:55 Local
 News November 8, 2006 8:00AM TRT 0:45 Local
 News November 8, 2006 Noon TRT 1:05 Local

News November 8, 2006 5:00PM TRT 2:13 Local
 Governor-elect Strickland says one of his key job creation plans is working with Senator-elect Sherrod Brown on alternative energy development. A day after defeating Senator DeWine, Brown says he wants Congress to first tackle issues that both Democrats and Republicans can agree on. He says those include increasing the minimum wage, providing affordable health care to all Americans and increasing stem cell research.

Additional reports

News November 8, 2006 6:00PM TRT 1:15 Local

Issue: Board of Elections - Operations

News October 4, 2006 10:00PM TRT 5:14 Local
 Cuyahoga County is hoping for a much smoother election than the May primary. How smooth next month's election will go is still unclear, but what is becoming clear is just how incredibly expensive it will be. We should remember that Cleveland was recently ranked the poorest city in the nation so there are plenty of places where public money is needed.

We have gone to electronic voting, touch-screens. Cuyahoga County's records show it allocated just over \$200,000 for printing costs for ballots using the old punch-card system. For next month's gubernatorial election, the cost to the county for paper, in the age of electronic voting, is budgeted to more than triple to \$721,000.

Until recently, you had to cast your ballot on Election Day at your polling place unless you had a valid reason to vote absentee. The Ohio legislature recently changed the law to allow anyone to vote absentee. The new absentee ballots are larger and printed on special paper so they can be read by scanners. They cost about a dollar per page. If absentee voting is high, the county could spend a million dollars on paper for a supposedly computerized election. So far the changeover to electronic voting has cost Cuyahoga County over \$5 million in tax money. The trade-off was supposed to be that the electronic voting might cost more, but it would be more accurate. But the promised accuracy, at least here in Cuyahoga County, has yet to be seen.

In the old punch card world, a normal discrepancy rate between votes cast and votes properly counted was about 2%. The average discrepancy rate in May's primary between votes counted on a computer's memory card and votes counted on its paper receipt, which is the official vote, is about 10% making it five times less accurate than the old system. That 10% figure came from an independent study that compared the printed receipt results with the results from the voting computer's memory card.

Additional reports

News	October 5, 2006	6:00PM	TRT 4:26	Local
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News	October 5, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 1:05	Local
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About 1500 absentee ballots have been sent out with the wrong party affiliations given to the candidates in house district 7 which includes Euclid, South Euclid, Richmond Heights, and parts of Cleveland. The board will cancel those ballots, send a letter to the affected voters to explain the problem, and send them a corrected ballot. Voters must vote the new, corrected absentee ballot because the old one will be cancelled. The deadline to register to vote is next Tuesday.

Additional reports

News	October 6, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local
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News	October 6, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local
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News	October 6, 2006	5:00PM	TRT 1:05	Local
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News	October 9, 2006	6:00PM	TRT 3:21	Local
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Tonight there are more problems with absentee ballots at the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections. The good news is that these problems have been caught. An example of one error is in house race 12, one candidate's name is printed in smaller type than his opponent's. Now after the additional re-proofing of the ballots that took all weekend, the Elections Board has found a total of about 15 errors affecting up to 5100 ballots that have already been mailed to voters. Those voters will get a new ballot in the mail.

The candidate whose name was listed in smaller print, Anthony Cefarrati, issued a blistering statement to the I-Team today. He says he's extremely disappointed and says this failure will be costing working class tax payers additional money. Cefarrati says "these errors perpetrate the case for wholesale changes needed at the board."

Additional reports

News	October 9, 2006	5:00PM	TRT 1:45	Local
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News	October 9, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 2:40	Local
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News	October 10, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 2:20	Local
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News	October 11, 2006	5:00PM	TRT 1:45	Local
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With only a few more weeks until election day, the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections is working to correct a slew of problems that plagued them in May. A review panel studying those problems concluded that the poll workers themselves were among the harshest critics. Some felt their training was inadequate, others were confused over job descriptions, and some didn't even show up.

As a result the Board of Elections has partnered with CCC and Diebold, which makes the voting machines, in completely overhauling training of poll workers. For November's election, job descriptions will be better defined, workers will be less intimidated by the equipment, and will have more support. Seven thousand people have to be trained in four weeks.

Additional reports

News	October 11, 2006	6:00PM	TRT 2:15	Local
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News	October 17, 2006	5:00PM	TRT 1:53	Local
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The Cuyahoga County Board of Elections is undertaking a monumental effort to try and prepare one million registered voters for an election in just two weeks. Even if you have voted in the past, there are going to be some changes this time around. One of the biggest is that you will have to have some form of ID with you, a driver's license, a utility bill, something to identify yourself. If you don't have one, you can ask for a provisional ballot and still vote on election day.

The Board of Elections also realizes that as many as half of the voters who show up November 7 may never before have seen or used the touch screen voting machines. They have launched a \$300,000 mail and television campaign to try and get everyone up to speed before election day. If you haven't already seen it, you probably will be getting one of these fliers in the mail and it is best not to toss it aside before you look it over. If you have already tossed it aside a lot of the information is also available on the Election Board's website, or you can find a link to it on www.MyFoxCleveland.com.

Additional reports

News	October 17, 2006	6:00PM	TRT 2:14	Local
News	October 17, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 0:50	Local
News	October 18, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local
News	October 18, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local
News	October 18, 2006	Noon	TRT 0:40	Local

News October 22, 2006 8:00AM TRT 4:15 Local
 Joining us this morning is Jane Platten the administrator of Community Outreach and Administrative Services for the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections. She's here this morning to tell us what voters need to know before they head to the polls. Be sure to bring your ID. Acceptable forms of ID for voters include a current driver's license or State ID, a current utility bill, bank statement, military ID, or government check or paycheck

News October 25, 2006 6:00PM TRT 2:16 Local
 More than 100,000 people are expected to vote using absentee ballots next month. As of today, the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections has received more than 95,000 requests for absentee ballots. Close to 80,000 ballots have been mailed out. Cuyahoga County has engineered a plan officials hope and pray will be a positive proactive step towards processing and tabulating the ballots. They have decided to start counting at 12:01 a.m. election morning. If the Secretary of State should decide to allow the board to start counting earlier they will.

Additional reports

News	October 25, 2006	5:00PM	TRT 1:38	Local
News	October 25, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 0:50	Local
News	October 26, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 0:50	Local
News	October 26, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local
News	October 26, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local
News	October 26, 2006	Noon	TRT 0:50	Local

News October 27, 2006 6:00PM TRT 2:00 Local
 A federal judge in Columbus has ordered a halt to the state's new voter identification law. At issue is the requirement that you provide identification at the polls or on your absentee ballot. The federal judge says the ID requirements are not legal because they're not the same across the state. Secretary of State Ken Blackwell says he's fine with dropping the ID requirement. Attorney General Petro says a problem uncovered in early absentee ballots can be fixed without scrapping Ohio's voter ID law.

County election boards have to wade through the confusion to get the rules they'll follow on Election Day. Who gets blamed for these problems is also up for debate. Secretary of State Blackwell says with the election so close the best thing to do is let the judge's ruling stand. Petro says the law is good and must be defended.

Additional reports

News	October 27, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 0:50	Local
News	October 29, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 2:25	Local

A printing issue already had Summit County two weeks behind the power curve getting absentee ballots out. Now word from the post office is that many are being returned to the senders for insufficient postage. Stuffed in every envelope along with the ballot is a disclaimer reminding voters that postage is 87 cents. Election officials say it appears people are simply sticking a 39-cent stamp on and mailing it. A board policy passed this summer prevents it from accepting ballots with postage due so the board plans to ask the county to foot the bill and pass special legislation to allow it to receive the ballots. If the county agrees to pick up the tab for unpaid postage tomorrow, board officials estimate the cost would be no more than \$10,000.

Additional reports

News	October 29, 2006	6:00PM	TRT 0:40	Local
News	October 30, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local
News	October 30, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local
News	October 30, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local

News October 31, 2006 5:00PM TRT 1:48 Local
Did you remember to put the right postage on your absentee ballot? If you forgot, the post office will cut you a break. In Summit County the burden is on voters to pay postage for mailing in absentee ballots. A new post office directive ensures those ballots will be delivered without delay even without a stamp.

Some ballots may be set aside and possibly not counted if voters failed to include identification, or use the wrong information. For more voter information on all the races and issues go to our website www.MyFoxCleveland.com and click on news.

Additional reports

News	October 31, 2006	6:00PM	TRT 2:35	Local
News	October 31, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 0:50	Local

News November 2, 2006 5:00PM TRT 2:17 Local
A consent order from a federal court in Columbus says people will be allowed to vote even if they don't have an ID. Last year all you had to do to vote was sign your name. In an effort to eliminate fraud, the state decided people needed to show ID starting with this November's election. A lawsuit filed on behalf of the Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless has now reversed things. Election offices are still urging people to bring a driver's license.

Additional reports

News	November 2, 2006	Noon	TRT 2:17	Local
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News November 2, 2006 6:00PM TRT 3:05 Local
The I-Team has learned if the election were held today, Cuyahoga County's system for counting absentee votes may well not work again. Last night and this morning, the I-Team confirmed that during testing, optical scanners at the Board of Elections were not reading absentee ballots properly. After we told elections officials today we planned to broadcast this story tonight, officials held a news conference and acknowledged the problem. After that, we sat down one on one with elections Director Michael Vu.

When elections officials recently demonstrated the Diebold optical scanners that are supposed to read absentee ballots, all seemed to be working well. But watch the paper as it is fed in and notice how the ballots have folds. The voters mail in absentee ballots, folding them to put them in an envelope. When officials recently put folded ballots through further testing the scanners didn't read the ballots properly, and at this point, officials have no idea why.

The problem is with what's called the "over and under." Say a ballot has ten votes cast on it. The machine is reading the ballot as if it had twelve or eight votes for example, over or under what it should. In simple terms, it's not working. Remember, it was a problem with absentee votes that threw May's primary election into chaos. A blistering independent report put much of the blame for overall problems at the board on Director Vu and Deputy Director Gwen Dillingham. This time with over 80,000 absentee ballots expected, if they have to count them by hand, we'll likely be counting until Christmas. Michael Vu says they are continuing to do tests. They will let us know if they get the problem fixed.

News	November 3, 2006	6:00PM	TRT 1:25	Local
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A key court ruling gives boards of election across the state the right to start scanning absentee ballots the day before Election Day. There is still a chance that this ruling that Judge Gaul has extended to every county might be appealed. So stay tuned.

Additional reports

News	November 3, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 1:51	Local
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News November 4, 2006 6:00PM TRT 0:40 Local
 In Cuyahoga County some extra sets of eyes will be monitoring the accuracy of our votes. The Board of Elections has authorized a public audit committee to make sure the actual votes match the machine read outs. The group will begin an audit of the touch screen votes in Cuyahoga County two days after the election, and now there is a call for an audit of the absentee ballots as well. Cuyahoga County is still testing its absentee ballot scanning system today, after some machines were found to have problems scanning folded ballots.

Additional reports

News November 4, 2006 10:00PM TRT 0:40 Local
 News November 5, 2006 8:00AM TRT 0:40 Local

News November 5, 2006 10:00PM TRT 1:56 Local
 Today the County Board of Elections held a special meeting to discuss security measures when scanning absentee ballots. Unfortunately, even after months of reviewing what went wrong in May, there are still no guarantees that everything will go smoothly. In an emergency meeting Sunday afternoon, Cuyahoga County Board of Elections Director, Michael Vu, acknowledged that not all the kinks have been worked out of electronic voting machines. The board is sure there will be more kinks on Tuesday, but it's just a matter of how they handle them. The Secretary of State ordered this emergency meeting to make sure the proper procedures are in place for scanning absentee ballots.

After Sunday's meeting, members of the board stayed huddled and in conversation. This is an important election, and they know the public is watching and expecting it to go smoothly. Scanning for absentee ballots begins at 7am tomorrow morning. Those results will not be made public until after the election.

Additional reports

News November 5, 2006 6:00PM TRT 1:30 Local
 News November 6, 2006 5:00AM TRT 2:00 Local
 News November 6, 2006 5:00AM TRT 2:05 Local
 News November 6, 2006 6:00AM TRT 1:55 Local
 News November 6, 2006 6:00AM TRT 1:50 Local
 News November 6, 2006 7:00AM TRT 2:00 Local
 News November 6, 2006 7:00AM TRT 2:00 Local
 News November 6, 2006 8:00AM TRT 1:45 Local
 News November 6, 2006 8:00AM TRT 1:45 Local
 News November 6, 2006 Noon TRT 1:50 Local

News November 6, 2006 5:00PM TRT 2:15 Local
 The Fox 8 I-Team, has broken several major stories about problems at the Board of Elections, and reporter Bill Sheil is live tonight at the board. Just the fact that they are scanning absentee ballots today is a vast improvement. Today the scanning has proceeded smoothly. But to finish tomorrow night on time, the board needs about 60 scanners to read absentee ballots properly. While the desired 60 scanners are still functioning, the board wonders if the number of back-ups is sufficient. Assuming the scanning goes well, the next issue is the quality and quantity of the poll workers who have been trained on running tomorrow's touch screen voting. At one point, the failure rate among poll workers taking the test to work tomorrow was 30%.

Additional reports

News November 6, 2006 6:00PM TRT 3:04 Local

News November 6, 2006 6:00PM TRT 2:03 Local
 What do you need to know before you go to the polls? Election officials say people are still coming in and calling with questions. The number one question is will I need to show ID in order to vote? If you don't have an ID you can just give the last four digits of your social security number to place a provisional ballot.

Poll workers are already busy counting absentee ballots. In terms of absentee applications, we broke even presidential records, with 107,000 absentee applications, and as of Saturday 68,000 of those ballots have come back. If you mailed in the card requesting an absentee ballot, but never got one, now you will have to go into your polling place.

News November 6, 2006 10:00PM TRT 2:23 Local
 Scanning of absentee ballots is done 5 ½ hours ahead of schedule and it went smoothly. But the real test for absentee votes won't come until 7:30 Tuesday night when the polls close and the votes are tabulated. For voters coming to the polls Tuesday, election workers say there's no guarantee the electronic voting machines will work without a hitch, but they say things should go smoothly. Election workers are now in the process of delivering the electronic voting machines to precincts throughout the city. The polls open at 6:30am and are open until 7:30 pm.

Additional reports

News	November 7, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 2:00	Local
News	November 7, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 2:05	Local
News	November 7, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 1:55	Local
News	November 7, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 1:55	Local
News	November 7, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 2:00	Local
News	November 7, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 2:00	Local
News	November 7, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 1:45	Local
News	November 7, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 2:00	Local

News November 7, 2006 Noon TRT 3:15 Local
 Wayne Dawson is at the Board of Elections. First, Fox 8 news reporter Belinda Prinz shows us some of the glitches at the polls. We've learned the electronic voting machines were not working in dozens of precincts in Cuyahoga County this morning. In those cases, voters were given old fashioned paper ballots. The reasons for the Diebold voting machines being down differed. Some of the problems centered on the memory cards. They may have been sent to the wrong location. The memory cards are the heart and soul of electronic voting, where the electronic tally of your vote is actually kept. Those votes and those of voters who failed to bring the correct ID were given provisional ballots. The machines in some of those locations using paper ballots are now up and running.

News November 7, 2006 6:00PM TRT 11:13 Local
 There are widespread problems at polling locations across Cuyahoga County. Although, voting did go off much better today than it did in May's primary, the Fox 8 I-Team is monitoring the situation. Unlike May, this time the Elections Board had a nerve center, red dots on the screen meant a problem so that help could be sent. Still, some problems slipped through the cracks.

Some voters gave up on waiting at the polling places that had delays and left without casting ballots. That was the case at Boulevard School in Shaker Heights and at Westwood Elementary in Warrensville Heights. The polling site opened late and problems with some of the electronic machines meant they operated with fewer than expected. Even though the touch screen voting experience was new to some, they found the long wait no problem. Paper ballots cast today won't be counted until 11 days after the election.

News November 7, 2006 10:00PM TRT 2:44 Local
 Watch the bottom of your screen for continuously updated numbers on all the key races. There were more big problems at the polls. Bill Sheil is live at the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections with the latest. Sixteen polling locations, including here at Mt. Neebo, and at Alcazar in Cleveland Heights, were ordered to stay open until 9pm, an order issued tonight by Cleveland federal judge Dan Polster.

This is part of the reason the Ohio Democratic party filed the suit late today, long lines at some polling locations. The party contended the lines were due in part to four locations opening late, and problems getting the process moving at others. All 16 were on the east side or in eastern suburbs. Elections officials did have problems at 43 polling locations, about 8% of their total. Better monitoring of problem locations led to quicker fixes than occurred during May's disaster.

Additional reports

News	November 8, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 0:55	Local
News	November 8, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 2:00	Local
News	November 8, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 1:55	Local
News	November 8, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 2:00	Local
News	November 8, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 1:50	Local
News	November 8, 2006	Noon	TRT 1:45	Local

News November 8, 2006 6:00PM TRT 1:10 Local
The I-Team's Bill Sheil is live to tell us if the county has all the votes counted yet. This morning 26 of the memory cards that record the vote were missing. Before noon that was down to one. That compares to hundreds that were missing the day after the May primary.

Additional reports

News November 8, 2006 5:00PM TRT 1:10 Local
News November 8, 2006 10:00PM TRT 0:50 Local
News November 9, 2006 5:00AM TRT 0:45 Local

News November 21, 2006 6:00PM TRT 4:48 Local
To say this month's election in Cuyahoga County cost you a lot is an understatement. While the county held its checkbook open for the Elections Board, it took a pass on many other worthwhile programs partly because running this election proved so expensive. A recent county budget memo obtained by the I-Team shows the last election for governor in 2002 cost the county \$1.5 million to run on the old punch-card voting system. This month's gubernatorial election on the new touch screen system cost the county \$8.3 million, a 457% increase. That doesn't include the cost to buy any of the new touch screen voting machines.

What is clear is the county needs to get Elections Board spending under control if it hopes to get other worthwhile projects off the ground. Elections Director Michael Vu says there were on going discussions at lower levels between board employees and the county about the Board's spending.

News November 28, 2006 6:00PM TRT 0:49 Local
The Cuyahoga County Elections Board has officially certified this month's election. The bad news is auditing some of the votes, if it were ever needed, would be next to impossible. In certifying the election, the board expressed dismay that its new, multi-million dollar computerized election system would not allow it to easily audit absentee ballots. In the meantime, the board's chairman said the futures of elections Director Michael Vu and Deputy Director Gwen Dillingham are still up in the air. The pair's future will be decided after the first of the year.

News November 29, 2006 6:00PM TRT 2:05 Local
\$14 million was spent on the November elections. Commissioners say they simply can't spend that kind of money every time there is an election. In the end it could mean getting rid of the touch screen voting machines. After a primary and a general election that cost the county upwards of \$15-million, commissioners are considering their options.

Election Director Michael Vu says once workers are trained and confident of the system, some of the costs should diminish. The county commissioners say the amount they spent in November is unacceptable. They'll be looking at other large counties that used optical scan machines, their costs, and how they can logically save when the next election rolls around. Commissioners say if optical scan seems more cost effective, they'll have to look at what they can get for the touch screen machines the county has. This is a decision that will have to go through the Board of Elections.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Issue: Red Light Cameras

News December 6, 2006 6:00PM TRT 0:25 Local
Red light cameras in Cleveland are under attack tonight at the Ohio Statehouse. The State Senate voted not to allow evidence from the red light cameras for disputed citations. This was after Cleveland officials testified the law would make red light cameras worthless as traffic safety tools. Ohio senators said Cleveland's real concern is money and they joined the Ohio House in an attack on red light cameras. Now the two bodies have to work out their differing bills.

News December 12, 2006 5:00PM TRT 1:36 Local
 Ohio lawmakers have just passed a bill that will virtually eliminate Cleveland's red light cameras. Cleveland city officials insisted the enforcement cameras are all about safety, but the Ohio legislature is not buying it. The House voted overwhelmingly today to effectively prohibit the cameras. The bill that just passed would only allow cameras to be used when a police officer is present to witness the offense and issue a citation. Cleveland turned to automation specifically to avoid using police manpower for traffic enforcement. The visual evidence from the cameras will no longer be enough to convict someone under state law. In a separate amendment, lawmakers tacked on a provision that would prevent cities from shortening the time a traffic signal stays yellow.

It's important to note there are two areas where legislators agreed to allow the use of red light cameras. That's in school zones and at railroad crossings. The measure now awaits governor Taft's signature.

News December 12, 2006 6:00PM TRT 2:20 Local
 Today's vote in the Ohio House is a huge blow to the city of Cleveland's program because the way most of the cameras are used now would be prohibited under the new law. State lawmakers saw for themselves the results of an I-Team investigation. 97% of tickets issued by Cleveland's automated cameras were for speeding and 3% for crashing red lights. That's how Cleveland justified citing drivers by camera.

In a 72 to 23 vote, the Ohio House rejected that argument finding cities are using them as high tech speed traps to generate revenue. Under the just passed bill a police officer would have to be present witness an offense and issue a citation to the driver for any conviction to stick. Although not a major issue in Cleveland, another provision also prohibits cities from shortening the time of yellow caution lights. Critics say that was an attempt by some cities to snare more violators. Several studies showed fewer accidents with longer yellow lights.

Lawmakers did allow for the use of automated traffic enforcement in school zones and railroad crossings. City officials say it's simply too soon to talk about changing how the cameras are used because they do plan a vigorous appeal. A spokesman says Governor Taft has not yet decided whether he'll sign the bill or veto it.

Additional reports

News	December 12, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 2:17	Local
News	December 13, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 2:10	Local
News	December 13, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 2:05	Local
News	December 13, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 1:45	Local
News	December 13, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 1:45	Local
News	December 13, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 1:45	Local
News	December 13, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 1:45	Local
News	December 13, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 1:45	Local

News December 13, 2006 Noon TRT 0:00 Local
 The state took steps yesterday to make red light and speed cameras so impractical that they won't be worth having. A bill that passed the state house would require a police officer to be there to write the ticket. At least one state rep says Cleveland is to blame for starting a trend last year, using the cameras to catch speeders and changing the focus from safety to making money. It's a claim the mayor and the law director deny. If the law passes, Cleveland is prepared to take this to court.

News December 13, 2006 6:00PM TRT 2:24 Local
 A possible change in the law could shut down the traffic camera program for good. Chances are you know someone who has been caught speeding or running a red light by one of these cameras. House bill 56, passed in the Ohio House Tuesday, requires cities to identify an offending driver, but they can't make the identification by using photos taken by traffic cameras. Cleveland city officials say the bill renders their cameras useless because they'll need an officer at each one to enforce the fines. While most drivers say they'll be happy to see the cameras gone, speeding is still a crime. Cleveland is what's called a home rule city, which means it has the right to determine its laws as long as they don't conflict with state or federal laws. Mayor Frank Jackson threatened legal action if the governor doesn't veto the bill.

News December 13, 2006 6:00PM TRT 1:45 Local
Governor Taft has been getting an earful today from Ohio's big city mayors including Cleveland's Frank Jackson. The mayors are calling for a veto of the red light camera bill to protect the concept of home rule in Ohio. Governor Taft is non-committal on the issue saying he still has to study the red light legislation.

The Governor is still stinging from the first veto loss in 29 years on the concealed carry law just yesterday. That battle was also over home rule laws in Ohio cities, and the governor says mayors have reason to grumble over all these new laws taking away their power. Governor Taft has plenty of time to study the issue and to line up votes if a veto is what he decides to do.

GOVERNMENT/LOCAL ELECTION ISSUES

Issue: Learn & Earn

News October 4, 2006 6:00PM TRT 2:33 Local
Is the effort to legalize slots in Ohio falling apart from within? Criticism of the campaign is now coming from those who are most closely involved. It is not surprising that opposition to Issue 3 might come from clergy and others against gaming, but some Learn and Earn organizers are upset by the claim in their own campaign ads. One ad says slots would raise almost one-billion dollars a year for college scholarships. The campaign's own studies estimate they could raise much less.

Peter Lawson Jones Greater Cleveland Partnership conducted the study, and he believes the \$170 million discrepancy isn't that big a deal. To those campaigning against the issue, like Dave Zanotti of the Ohio Round Table, the confusion isn't surprising. Just this morning Learn and Earn filed a complaint accusing the Ohio Round Table of exaggerating their claims. The Issue 3 campaign in Columbus, in this statement, stands by its round-up saying \$835 million in anyone's book is nearly a billion.

News October 18, 2006 5:00PM TRT 1:26 Local
The so-called Learn and Earn issue might be the most controversial on the November ballot. Issue 3 would allow slot machines at Ohio's seven racetracks and two downtown-Cleveland locations. Backers say it will provide jobs and money for college scholarships. Opponents call it fool's gold. A who's who of the biggest political names in Cleveland stood on the steps of city hall to endorse Issue 3. They argue it would mean thousands of construction and permanent jobs and help many students afford college. The Columbus mayor was one of several people, including Senator George Voinovich who spoke out against Issue 3. For the pros and cons of Ohio Learn and Earn go to our website, www.MyFoxCleveland.com.

News October 31, 2006 5:00PM TRT 0:50 Local
Numerous local politicians have voiced their support for Issue 3, the constitutional amendment that would bring 30,000 slot machines to Ohio. Many local clergy still oppose legalized gambling. Saint Louis and Detroit, which already have casino-style gambling, are ranked first and second on the nation's list of most dangerous cities.

News November 1, 2006 6:00PM TRT 2:51 Local
Fox 8's Dray Clark is live at the Northfield Park, where horses and high hopes run side by side. Slot machines here would be considered a jackpot for many. But standing in the way is a vigorous campaign to vote Issue 3 down. Issue 3 would amend the Ohio constitution to allow 30,000 slot machines at seven state racetracks and two sites in downtown Cleveland. Currently he says that the projected \$900 million in revenue is divided up between three neighboring states. Much of Issue 3 has been built on the promise of scholarships, hence the phrase learn and earn. 30% of gambling proceeds would fund college scholarships.

This is a look at a recent poll that was released today out of Columbus. The results are based on the response of 800 people. Under Issue 3, 48% oppose, 42% support, and 10% remain undecided. Remember for the latest on all of the election night coverage, check out MyFoxCleveland.com and click on news.

Additional reports

News	November 1, 2006	5:00PM	TRT 1:40	Local
News	November 1, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 2:22	Local
News	November 2, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 2:22	Local

News November 2, 2006 6:00PM TRT 1:00 Local
Solon's mayor was one of several local Republican leaders expressing support for Issue 3. They say, slot machines will generate much-needed economic growth, development, and jobs, but critics warn only a few will benefit, while the rest will have to pick up the social cost of addicted gamblers.

News November 6, 2006 6:00PM TRT 5:35 Local
It promises to provide scholarships for your children, but critics of Issue 3 say bringing slot machines to Ohio would ruin lives and destroy communities. It's the promise of scholarships for students and higher education that has captured the eyes and ears of many voters. The amendment states 30% of gross slot machine revenue shall be paid to the state and shall be used solely for scholarships and grants provided for in this section.

The amendment says funds shall be awarded to the top five percent of students at each accredited public and non-public high school who attend any public or independent not-for profit institution of higher education authorized by the Ohio Board of Regents. The amendment states eligibility criteria for such scholarships and grants and the amounts shall be established solely by the Board of Regents. Only students going to colleges and universities in Ohio may qualify for the money. But in the amendment there is no specific language on how much each scholarship is worth and when it will be given out.

News November 7, 2006 6:00PM TRT 1:20 Local
One of the concerns voters expressed about Issue 3 was the idea of amending the state constitution to allow slot machine gambling. Supporters of the issue argued vehemently Ohio is losing close to a billion dollars in revenue to other states that do have slot machines. However critics say the amendment is full of loop holes meaning only the top five percent of high school students would qualify for the scholarships. They also say gambling addictions will increase. Both sides were very optimistic and they campaigned vigorously until the very end.

Additional reports

News	November 7, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 0:40	Local
News	November 7, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 2:10	Local

News November 10, 2006 6:00PM TRT 0:40 Local
Backers of the bid to bring gambling to Ohio say Cleveland is where the issue was lost. The learn & earn campaign concentrated on Cuyahoga County where polls showed strong support and where two downtown casinos would be built. Voter turnout in Cuyahoga County apparently was just too low.

News November 8, 2006 5:00AM TRT 0:50 Local
Slot machines will not be coming to Cleveland or other parts of the state. Issue 3, also known as learn and earn, was defeated by about a 57 to 43 margin. This was the third time voters rejected slot machines in Ohio.

Additional reports

News	November 8, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 0:32	Local
News	November 8, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 0:40	Local
News	November 8, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 0:30	Local
News	November 8, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 0:30	Local
News	November 8, 2006	Noon	TRT 0:23	Local

Smoking Issues 4 and 5

News October 9, 2006 6:00PM TRT 2:15 Local
Two big smoking issues will be on the ballot. State Issue 4 limits public smoking and state Issue 5 bans public smoking. State Issue 5 doesn't matter unless Issue 4 is defeated. Columbus is one of 21 Ohio cities with outright bans on public smoking. The city is surrounded by township taverns where smoking is unregulated.

At Issue 5 headquarters, Smoke Free Ohio volunteers are fighting a two front war. They not only need to pass the Issue 5 smoking ban, but to make it count they have to beat Issue 4. Issue 4's constitutional status gives smokeless Ohio the trump card over the smoke free ban. Unless both of these issues lose, the law on smoking will be the same everywhere in Ohio. If both issues are defeated public smoking laws will remain a local issue with different laws all over the state.

News	October 11, 2006	6:00PM	TRT 2:32	Local
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Issue 5 supporters are fired up and today they got an endorsement from Mayor Frank Jackson. He wants a ban on public smoking. Some bar and restaurant owners fear if Issue 5, the total smoking ban, wins out over Issue 4, places will close and people will lose jobs. But after California clamped down on smoking there was a 6% increase in taxable sales for eating and drinking establishments in California

At a kickoff for Issue 5, which would ban all public smoking, the CEO of the Cleveland Clinic touched on another economic impact of smoking. Workers at bars and restaurants who are most vulnerable to second hand smoke would be affected and few have health insurance to pay for medical care. Smoke Free Ohio says if non smokers sit in a bar for two hours it is the equivalent of actually smoking four cigarettes.

Additional reports

News	October 12, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 0:50	Local
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News	October 30, 2006	6:00PM	TRT 1:55	Local
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Fourteen states and nine countries ban smoking in public places. There are businesses that rely upon a smoking clientele in Ohio. People who work in those smoky environments are 34% more likely to develop lung cancer as a result of working in those places.

Issue 4 is a constitutional amendment and would trump Issue 5 if they pass and they are both polling right now to pass. If you want to preserve smoking vote yes on Issue 4; if you want to limit smoking, vote no on 4 and yes on 5. 53,000 Americans die each year as a result of exposure to second hand smoke

Fox 8 has come up with a voter guide. Just go to MyFoxCleveland.com and click on news. There you will find a complete list of the major issues on the November ballot.

Additional reports

News	October 30, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 1:49	Local
News	October 31, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 0:50	Local
News	October 31, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 1:37	Local
News	October 31, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 4:32	Local
News	October 31, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 0:30	Local
News	October 31, 2006	Noon	TRT 1:05	Local

News	November 7, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 2:55	Local
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Passing Issue 4 and changing the constitution would override whatever happens with Issue 5. Issue 4, backed by big tobacco and a coalition of businesses who feel banning smoking would hurt them economically, is getting clobbered. Issue 5, backed by the American Cancer Society, as well as other health crews, is winning very easily so far. Obviously people on both sides are paying very close attention to these issues.

News	November 8, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 2:10	Local
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Ohio voters considered whether they want people to be able to continue to smoke in bars and restaurants and the answer was a resounding no. Issue 4 lost at the polls with 64% percent of people voting against it. Issue 5 was called smoke free Ohio and it bans smoking in all public places won with 58% voting in favor. According to the smoke free Ohio website the ban takes effect in 30 days.

Additional reports

News	November 8, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 2:30	Local
News	November 8, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 2:05	Local
News	November 8, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 1:45	Local
News	November 8, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 2:24	Local

In Columbus where smoking is banned Health Department officials say business owners are seldom a problem. It's patrons who refuse to follow the law and refuse to leave. Columbus warns the enforcement rules must include a role for police and arrests. The State Department of Health says other states with smoking bans have a 90% voluntary compliance rate and they expect Ohioans to follow the law before enforcement is an issue.

Additional reports

News	December 7, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 0:35	Local
News	December 7, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 1:30	Local

News	December 7, 2006	5:00PM	TRT 1:45	Local
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Ohio's new smoking law took effect today. What about the home of the Cleveland Indians? Smoking was restricted at Jacobs Field, and now it is totally banned. The interior of the luxury suites are smoke free as well. Neighboring Quicken Loans Arena is already a smoke free building. The Cleveland Browns and the City Health Department have been working on a policy for Browns Stadium.

Additional reports

News	December 7, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 0:50	Local
News	December 8, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 1:00	Local
News	December 8, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 0:44	Local
News	December 8, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 1:05	Local
News	December 8, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 0:40	Local

News	December 8, 2006	Noon	TRT 1:45	Local
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The smoking ban is in effect, but no one's enforcing it or at least, they aren't fining anybody. That's because there are no rules or regulations in place yet. The state still has to come up with them. Until they do the Department of Health has agreed not to fine anybody who gets caught smoking or allowing it in a public place. A group of business owners has asked the state not to fine anyone until those rules are in place and threatened to file a lawsuit to block the smoking ban otherwise. The ban took effect yesterday and bars and restaurants should enforce it.

News	December 8, 2006	5:00PM	TRT 2:21	Local
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The Ohio Department of Health made it very clear today the new smoking ban is very much alive. It is not be put on hold. No fines against patrons and no fines on bar and restaurant owners until all the rules are hammered out. But those owners need to remove ashtrays from the tables. They need to post signs with the 800 numbers. They need to ask patrons to extinguish their cigarettes or step outside. Those things still stand. Once the State Department of Health nails down the smoking rules, they will then have to be approved by the state legislature.

Additional reports

News	December 8, 2006	6:00PM	TRT 2:00	Local
News	December 8, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 1:57	Local

News	December 8, 2006	6:00PM	TRT 1:30	Local
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As you would expect, confusion on the smoking ban is being felt in Columbus. The state's first mission is to make sure citizens understand the law in Ohio now bans public smoking, even if that law cannot be enforced right now. Thousands of calls are coming into the telephone hotline at the Ohio Department of Health. Some of the calls complain about illegal smoking somewhere and right now all the state does is send a letter to the business outlining the new law. But most of the calls are actually coming in from businesses. The Ohio Department of Health says very few business owners will ignore the new smoking ban, because enforcement powers will come within six months. The big thing when it comes to compliance for a business is getting the no smoking signs posted. To make that easy the state has no smoking signs on the Health Department website businesses can copy and tape to their walls.

News	December 12, 2006	5:00PM	TRT 2:16	Local
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Have you noticed people are still smoking at many bars and restaurants, despite voters making it illegal? A lawsuit was filed and consent agreement reached that said the new law wouldn't be enforced until all of the rules were in place. The state has until June 7 to define the rules. After that violators face fines from \$100 to \$2500 per offense. You can read the entire smoke free workplace act, the consent decree and a statement from the Ohio Department of Health on our website.

Additional reports

News	December 12, 2006	6:00PM	TRT 2:16	Local
News	December 12, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 0:50	Local
News	December 13, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 2:06	Local
News	December 13, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 2:06	Local
News	December 13, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 2:11	Local
News	December 13, 2006	Noon	TRT 0:40	Local

News December 18, 2006 5:00PM TRT 1:26 Local
The big complaints with Ohio's new public smoking ban are coming from northeast Ohio. Until this state advisory committee gets rules and penalties approved for the smoking ban, the new law cannot be enforced. The Health Department is being flooded with calls from businesses who say law breakers are taking their customers. The situation in northeast Ohio is so bad Smoke Free Ohio is urging Governor elect Strickland to sign the public smoking ban rules as an executive order when he takes office. That would make the smoking ban enforceable with fines right away, and it looks like that is what it will take to get some businesses to follow the law.

Additional reports

News	December 18, 2006	6:00PM	TRT 1:55	Local
News	December 18, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 1:50	Local
News	December 19, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local
News	December 19, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 1:55	Local
News	December 19, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local
News	December 19, 2006	Noon	TRT 0:37	Local

News December 20, 2006 10:00PM TRT 1:49 Local
Tonight, the Cleveland Browns have made smoking a personal foul at the stadium. The smokers who helped pay for the stadium say they feel a little cheated. In response to Ohio's new smoking ban, the Browns issued a statement proclaiming that smoking is now prohibited inside the stadium, but there will be designated smoking areas on ramps, bridges and gates that will be clearly marked.

Additional reports

News	December 21, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 2:00	Local
News	December 21, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 2:05	Local
News	December 21, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 1:50	Local
News	December 21, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 1:56	Local
News	December 21, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 2:00	Local
News	December 21, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 2:00	Local
News	December 21, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 1:45	Local
News	December 21, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 1:45	Local

Minimum Wage

News October 6, 2006 7:00AM TRT 2:33 CNN
Ohio is one of six states where voters will decide if the state's minimum wage should be raised. Congress has not raised the wage for low-income workers in ten years even though lawmakers have voted to give themselves 9 pay raises during that time. This November there are ballot initiatives in Arizona, Ohio, Colorado, Missouri, Nevada and Montana where voters will get to decide whether to increase the state minimum wage to as much as \$6.85 an hour. 22 states and the District of Columbia have already raised the threshold. Business groups have resisted the measures arguing a minimum wage hike will hurt small companies. But the AFL-CIO says evidence has shown raising wages increases productivity and lowers employee turnover rates.

According to a PEW research study 83% of Americans favor raising the minimum wage. Despite the overwhelming support, Congress failed to act on this issue before leaving town. The Republican leadership attached a proposal to repeal the estate tax to the minimum wage bill. Democrats found that unacceptable and the measure was defeated.

News October 25, 2006 6:00PM TRT 2:13 Local
A proposed issue to raise Ohio's minimum wage is under attack tonight. Could it open the door to identity theft? Ohio business groups launch a tv campaign today claiming the minimum wage issue will put your private financial information at risk. Supporters of a minimum wage increase say it's all a false scare tactic.

The business funded group Ohioans to Protect Personal Privacy is on the air across the state with this ad urging a no vote on the issue to raise the minimum wage from 5.15 to 6.85 an hour. Business groups opposing the minimum wage amendment have focused all of their fire on the record keeping requirements to make sure employers are actually paying the minimum wage. Business groups claim one employee could open the door to information fishing. The businesses fighting Issue 2 say confidential employment information will be quickly known and create a bad atmosphere in the workplace.

The AFL-CIO'S Tim Burga says you or your designated agent can only get information on your salary and hours. Burga compares employment data to medical information, shared only with doctors and insurers who need to know and have your permission. Burga says this ad's claims are false. Business groups say if Issue 2 passes a court will decide how much information they have to share but the record keeping requirement is clear. The business groups say the information they'll have to collect if Issue 2 becomes law would upset the workplace if it leaks somehow. Supporters of a higher minimum wage say the privacy issue is just a way to change the subject.

News November 3, 2006 5:00PM TRT 0:40 Local
The week before the elections, Issue 2, to raise the minimum wage, is getting some faith based support. Members of the Cleveland area clergy are calling on their members to support raising the minimum wage from \$5.15 to \$6.85. They say raising the minimum wage doesn't just affect individuals but the entire community. The group ACORN, an organization of low and moderate income families, was also on hand supporting Issue 2 and has registered 116,000 new voters for this election.

News November 8, 2006 5:00AM TRT 0:50 Local
Issue 2 passed as where were 56% for and 44% against raising the minimum wage to \$6.85 an hour.

Issue 18 – Funding the Arts

News October 19, 2006 10:00PM TRT 2:05 Local
Is it a good deal funding the arts by hiking the price of cigarettes? Voters in Cuyahoga County will decide in the November election. Backers of Issue 18 beat the drum on Playhouse Square and they rallied to the sounds of a blue grass band outside Severance Hall, home of the Cleveland Orchestra. Issue 18 would raise an estimated \$20 million for arts and cultural groups in Cuyahoga County. The money would come from a 1.5 cent tax per cigarette. That comes to 30 cents a pack.

Opponents say the tax is unfair, directed only at smokers, and it would hurt some small businesses like convenience stores, gas stations, bars and bowling alleys. The comeback from the other side is various taxes support different things, like property taxes pay for education. From studies done in other cities, they've already factored in an initial drop in cigarette sales. Within the first 6 to 8 months, purchasing and consumption within a particular area does go down, somewhere in the neighborhood of 5%, but it comes back up again.

Backers say this is a critical time for many organizations. Revenues are dropping as the region loses population. Also state funding for the arts has been cut for 12 years in a row.

News November 2, 2006 5:00PM TRT 0:50 Local
Issue 18 critics say smokers are a minority who are already over-taxed. Backers of the arts levy feature a wide range of local leaders. They include Cuyahoga County Prosecutor Bill Mason, who underlined the jobs created by arts and culture.

News November 8, 2006 5:00AM TRT 2:10 Local
Issue 18 was the Cuyahoga County proposal to tax cigarettes to benefit arts and cultural organizations. 56% voted in favor of the issue while 44% voted against it.

News November 8, 2006 5:00PM TRT 1:55 Local
 Many see a contradiction in the passing of Issue 18 that makes smokers pay an additional tax for the arts and then voting on Issues 4 and 5 to leave them no place to light up.

News November 14, 2006 6:00PM TRT 2:07 Local
 Smokers still angry over last week's election are paying a price to light up. The passing of Issue 18 will raise the tax on cigarettes another 30-cents per pack come February 1. The money goes towards the arts.

CONSUMER INFORMATION/HEALTH & SAFETY

Issue: Cell Phone Issues

News October 24, 2006 5:00PM TRT 1:52 Local
 Some new research says cell phones may be causing health problems for men. Even in a setting like this coffee shop we are linked at the hip with these things. For salesmen, news reporters, and family men our mobile phones get a real work out. Research is looking at whether that is affecting male fertility. Mobile or cell phones have become so affordable and so practical it is not unusual for many of us to spend hours a day talking on one.

Researchers for years have debated what health impact there may be, if any, from exposure to mobile phone radiation. Telecommunications companies, researchers, and cell phone users all have varied opinions on the results of the studies that say they are harmful.

A Cleveland Clinic researcher is now questioning whether there is a link between lengthy cell phone use and male infertility. The study revealed at an American Society for Reproductive Medicine annual meeting underway now in New Orleans focuses on more than 300 patients. It questions whether cell phones can lower sperm count, but so far not been clinically proven. Because it raises some interesting parallels, some cell phone users welcome the research. There is a lot more to be done, and others question whether there are other factors, like inactivity, that could also be a common thread among men who spend a lot of time on cell phones.

Additional reports

News	October 24, 2006	6:00PM	TRT 0:50	Local
News	October 24, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 0:50	Local
News	October 25, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 1:45	Local
News	October 25, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 1:51	Local
News	October 25, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 1:49	Local

News November 1, 2006 6:00PM TRT 0:00 CNN
 For most cell phones are a necessity which means there is no avoiding wireless carriers. Cell phone bills are as clear as mud for many people. Consumer advocate Jeannine Kenney warns additional fees could be a way for companies to advertise one rate, while charging another. The wireless association, CTIA, says the bulk of line item charges are government imposed and varying rates between states make it tough to calculate and advertise an exact monthly cost. Consumers should also be careful when making any changes to their plans. Ending a contract early can lead to hefty fines. Make sure you have a grace period before you purchase a new phone.

News November 8, 2006 10:00PM TRT 3:33 Local
 There are more than 200 million cell phone users in America, and according to a new study, everyone's talking dirty. British researchers found that most cell phones are dirtier than toilets and the bottoms of people's shoes. We wanted to find out for ourselves. We asked 40 people if we could swab their cell phones. Some told us they clean their phones regularly. To compare the phones, we took the samples to a lab in Medina for testing. Two of the toilets came back with E.coli on them, but the bottoms of people's shoes were even more disgusting. Of the cell phones that were tested, more than one in four had a laundry list of nasty bacteria on them. When we told cell phone users the results, they were shocked.

Cell phones touch your face, your lips and your hands and then sit in your pocket and purse, two warm places that provide a perfect breeding ground for germs. While this news may be unsettling, you don't need to keep your cell phone at arm's length. Doctors say bacteria are a normal part of everyday life. Some germs, however, can be harmful. Keep on talking and keep your cell phone is clean. The best way to clean your phone is to use Windex or Clorox wipes, and you should do it every day.

Additional reports

News	November 9, 2006	6:00PM	TRT 3:33	Local
News	November 11, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 3:33	Local

News	November 12, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 2:42	Local
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It's the most popular accessory for your cell phone, downloading everything from personal ring tones to video games. Some companies are trapping people in costly contracts. Here are some important items to save your phone and your wallet. You've seen the ads about ring tones, jokes, and horoscopes that can be sent to your cell phone for a small fee.

Victor Valenchick, with Verizon Wireless has a three point plan of attack to stop those junk t-m's and tones. First try to unsubscribe from the service. Call the company directly if you can find a phone number, or active customer service department. Be warned blocks aren't always successful. Victor says only download t-m's, tones and games from your cell phone provider's library. Spam emails and text messages can be intrusive, expensive and illegal. If you are unable to cancel a contract you should contact and file a complaint with the FCC.

Additional reports

News	November 13, 2006	6:00PM	TRT 2:45	Local
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News	November 14, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 1:37	Local
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We're in our cars more than ever, and almost everyone has a cell phone. You've heard it's dangerous to drive and talk but is it really that bad? We took two drivers and put them through a real life obstacle course. We armed them with cell phones and The surprising conclusions to our test are coming up. Plus our testers are forced to do something that has never been tried before at the test track..

Additional reports

News	November 14, 2006	6:00PM	TRT 1:37	Local
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News	November 13, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 3:28	Local
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As we told you earlier in the show, there's a push to ban cell phones on the road in many cities and even some states. We wondered just how dangerous are cell phones behind the wheel. The track is set for Kara and Mike, who are both good drivers who sometimes use cell phones on the road. This obstacle course simulates real life driving conditions. First, they'll drive without any distractions then with cell phones

Back at the Peace Officers Training Course in London, Ohio the first pass is underway and all of the cones are still standing. That changes quickly once Kara and Mike start dialing and driving with their cells. Both drivers bumped several cones and watching them motor thru the course was downright scary. By now they should be familiar with the course still they squash numerous cones. They are traveling at very low speeds, much slower than most street speed limits

Drinking and driving is illegal even on a course like this so we used real life beer goggles. The trooper explains these goggles will give you the feeling of how bad you really are without being intoxicated. It throws you off balance and your reaction time is exactly how it would be if you were drinking. At the finish line, mentally sharp but minus the haze of the goggles, and the cell phones, Mike and Kara are both surprised. Kara said she went around a cone thinking she wouldn't hit it and then suddenly it was down. Mike said you really don't realize how impaired you are or how much damage you can do unless you really go through this. Troopers say, it's difficult to know how many people drink then drive and use a cell phone. They are certain it's happening, but it's not something people admit to in an accident.

Additional reports

News	November 14, 2006	6:00PM	TRT 3:28	Local
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News November 22, 2006 6:00PM TRT 2:00 Local
 Time means everything when you're in an emergency. Tonight getting help your way is taking a giant leap forward. Nowadays cell phones and cars are almost synonymous if not inseparable. This is a life line to emergency workers but what happens when they can't find you. In Cuyahoga County officials are telling drivers worry no more.

Sometimes dispatchers are at a disadvantage. They ask for your number, location, and nature of the emergency. Wasted time can mean the difference between life threatening and life ending. Cuyahoga County Commissioners have approved a new million dollar system. Case in point, a mother and son is carjacked and attacked in the warehouse district in October. The assailant drives them around in the trunk of their car and then leaves them in a remote area in the flats. With the new system dispatchers would know their exact location. Most cell phones come equipped with GPS software and that's how dispatchers can find you. Huron and Ashtabula counties already have the technology. In case you're wondering who's paying for this, you are. There's a 30 cent surcharge on every phone bill.

Additional reports

News	November 22, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 1:52	Local
News	November 23, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 1:00	Local
News	November 23, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local

Assistance to quit smoking

News November 19, 2006 8:00AM TRT 5:25 Local/FOX
 "If I had \$5 in my pocket and I was hungry and I was out of cigarettes, then I would buy a candy bar and get a pack of cigarettes, as opposed to getting a full meal" says a smoker we interviewed. That's the power of nicotine. Most smokers who quit try several times before they succeed. What can smokers do to increase their odds of success? Cleveland Clinic Doctor Jeff Chapman, an advanced lung disease specialist, joined our morning show to answer common questions from our viewers. More information on how to quit smoking is available from the Cleveland Clinic Health Information Center and from the Centers for Disease Control. You'll find links to both sources on our web site.

News November 21, 2006 5:00PM TRT 0:40 Local
 Smokers who try to quit using the nicotine patch are told not to smoke and wear the patch at the same time. A new study suggests wearing a nicotine patch for two weeks before quitting may improve the odds of success. A Cleveland Clinic specialist warns against that approach, unless you talk with your doctor first, because you risk nicotine poisoning. The man who led the study on the patch is one of its inventors. He receives research money from cigarette maker Philip Morris.

News December 21, 2006 6:00PM TRT 2:04 Local
 Cuyahoga County and the city of Cleveland are teaming up with the Cleveland Clinic to offer smoking cessation services to residents. Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson, County Commissioner Peter Lawson Jones, and Cleveland Clinic Chairman Toby Cosgrove announced free resources for residents who have no insurance or employer assistance. That includes free nicotine patches for eligible smokers who sign up through the Ohio Quit line. The patches will be mailed to residents' homes after the program officially begins January 1. Nicotine patches will also be distributed to the uninsured through Cleveland city health centers. The Clinic's internet based stop smoking program will be available to all residents. The clinic is donating computers to Cleveland recreation centers to improve access.

With Ohio's new anti-smoking law and the new year, local officials say it's a good time to get the help program started. Smoking rates in Cleveland and Ohio exceed the national average. The program runs from January 1 through March 31. Since the Ohio quit line contracts with a service based in Denver, the snow storm there has temporarily knocked it out of commission. They hope to be taking calls again by tomorrow.

Additional reports

News	December 22, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local
News	December 22, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 1:50	Local
News	December 22, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local

CRIME

Issue: Lundgren Execution

News October 1, 2006 5:00AM TRT 1:55 Local
Jeffery Lundgren has been on death row for 16 years, and today he will find out if he will live or die. Lundgren's execution is scheduled for later this month, unless Governor Taft decides to spare his life. The Parole Board will meet today to decide if it should recommend clemency for Jeffery Lundgren. If so, Governor Taft will have the final say.

Lundgren was convicted in the 1989 murders of Dennis and Cheryl Avery and their three children. Lundgren led a cult and convinced his followers to help him kidnap and execute the family of five. 12 people were convicted, but investigators say Lundgren pulled the trigger on each victim. Lundgren claimed he had divine orders to kill the Averys because they were sinful. The jury convicted Lundgren and sentenced him to death.

Additional reports

News	October 2, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 2:00	Local
News	October 2, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 1:50	Local
News	October 2, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 1:50	Local
News	October 2, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 1:50	Local
News	October 2, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 1:50	Local
News	October 2, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 1:45	Local
News	October 2, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 1:45	Local

News October 2, 2006 5:00PM TRT 1:55 Local
The Ohio Parole Board today recommended that Jeffrey Lundgren die by lethal injection for the murder of five members of a Lake County family in 1989. Lundgren told the Parole Board in a statement he was commanded by God to kill the Dennis Avery family as part of a cleansing. Lundgren's statement says he now understands the murders were wrong, a misinterpretation of God's will.

Congressman Steve LaTourette, the Lundgren prosecutor, has written Governor Taft opposing clemency based on a religious conversion. The Governor's office says a review of the Lundgren file is underway and a decision will be announced soon. If the Governor follows the Parole Board recommendation Jeffrey Lundgren will be executed on October 24.

Additional reports

News	October 2, 2006	Noon	TRT 0:30	Local
News	October 2, 2006	6:00PM	TRT 1:25	Local
News	October 2, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 0:50	Local
News	October 3, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 0:50	Local
News	October 3, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 1:40	Local
News	October 3, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local
News	October 3, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local

News October 17, 2006 5:00PM TRT 2:08 Local
Convicted cult killer Jeffrey Lundgren's execution is put on hold because it may be cruel and unusual punishment. Attorney General Jim Petro says he'll appeal the delay of Lundgren's death by lethal injection set for Tuesday. Petro says Lundgren's inclusion in a law suit started by another infamous northeast Ohio murderer is a formality that does not mean his case against Ohio's method of lethal injection will be heard. The Ohio public defender who initiated the case alleging the chemical cocktail used in this death chamber is too painful for use by vets to euthanize dogs, says Petro's argument has won two other challenges. Lundgren's suit says his execution will be particularly inhumane because of his heavy weight and status as a diabetic.

Additional reports

News	October 18, 2006	6:00PM	TRT 2:12	Local
News	October 18, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 2:01	Local
News	October 18, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local
News	October 18, 2006	Noon	TRT 0:41	Local

News October 23, 2006 5:00PM TRT 0:30 Local
 The execution of Jeffrey Lundgren remains on hold. The 6th U.S. Circuit Court denied the state's request for a full court hearing. Last week a judge ruled the 56-year old convicted murderer could join a lawsuit challenging death by lethal injection. Now it is up to a three-judge panel to decide if that motion is sufficient grounds to delay his execution. If allowed to proceed, Lundgren could face execution ten o'clock tomorrow morning.

Additional reports

News October 23, 2006 6:00PM TRT 0:39 Local
 News October 23, 2006 10:00PM TRT 0:25 Local

News October 24, 2006 5:00AM TRT 3:25 Local
 Convicted cult killer Jeffrey Lundgren will be executed today. The Federal Appeals Court ruling came late last night. The decision reversed an order to delay the execution so Lundgren could join a lawsuit that challenges Ohio's use of lethal injection. Lundgren is scheduled to die at ten o'clock this morning.

Additional reports

News October 24, 2006 6:00AM TRT 1:55 Local
 News October 24, 2006 6:00AM TRT 1:55 Local
 News October 24, 2006 7:00AM TRT 0:45 Local
 News October 24, 2006 7:00AM TRT 2:16 Local
 News October 24, 2006 8:00AM TRT 2:00 Local
 News October 24, 2006 8:00AM TRT 1:45 Local

News October 24, 2006 5:00PM TRT 5:25 Local
 Jeffrey Lundgren was pronounced dead at 10:26 this morning at the Southern Ohio correctional facility where he was put to death. Lundgren's body was immediately taken from the Lucasville prison. He will be buried at state expense at the prison cemetery in Chillicothe.

When Lundgren was asked yesterday if he wanted to draft a final statement, prison officials say he declined, indicating he did not believe the death penalty would be carried out. The U.S. Supreme Court refused to intervene, and Lundgren became the fifth man executed by the state of Ohio this year, the 25th since Ohio resumed executions in 1999.

Additional reports

News October 24, 2006 6:00PM TRT 8:09 Local
 News October 24, 2006 10:00PM TRT 5:06 Local
 News October 25, 2006 5:00AM TRT 1:00 Local
 News October 25, 2006 6:00AM TRT 0:45 Local
 News October 25, 2006 7:00AM TRT 0:45 Local
 News October 25, 2006 7:00AM TRT 3:49 Local
 News October 25, 2006 8:00AM TRT 1:00 Local

News October 26, 2006 6:00PM TRT 1:56 Local
 Jeffrey Lundgren has been buried in his final resting place at the Chillicothe state prison cemetery. Lundgren's family would not claim his body after Tuesday's execution so the state had to give him a funeral and bury him. Other inmates served as pallbearers and the burial crew. The chaplain says Lundgren never expressed remorse about the murders to him.

CRIME/CHILDREN

Issue: Gravelles – Kids in Cages Trial

News November 14, 2006 5:00AM TRT 2:05 Local
 They Gravelles fought for custody of their 11 special needs children and lost, and now the couple who are accused of keeping their children in cages will go on trial. It could mean jail time. It might seem surprising that a judge is allowing the trial to take place in the same county where all these allegations and accusations came out. Jury selection begins this morning in the criminal trial of Michael and Sharen Gravelle.

The Huron County couple is accused of endangering their special needs children by keeping them locked in cage-like enclosures with alarms on the doors. The children were taken away last September and the Gravelles lost custody in March. The judge in this case sent more than 300 potential jurors a 20-page questionnaire, and all but about 100 were dismissed because they already have strong views on the case. Through all of this Michael and Sharen have maintained what they did was in the best interest of their children.

Additional reports

News	November 14, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 2:00	Local
News	November 14, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 1:55	Local
News	November 14, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 1:55	Local
News	November 14, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 2:00	Local
News	November 14, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local
News	November 14, 2006	Noon	TRT 2:00	Local

News November 15, 2006 5:00PM TRT 1:40 Local
 The couple accused of keeping their kids in so-called cages is now defending themselves against criminal charges. This case has attracted national attention, and many people question if the Gravelles can get a fair trial in the county where they live.

Most of the attention has been on the enclosed beds that are often referred to as cages. The couple's 11 adopted children were removed from their home after a juvenile court ruled eight of them were abused and neglected and three others were determined to be dependent. That was a custody hearing, and this will be a criminal trial. Of the 102 prospective jurors that are left many of those questioned today felt they could be fair and impartial. This case probably won't go to trial until December sometime.

Additional reports

News	November 14, 2006	6:00PM	TRT 1:52	Local
News	November 14, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 0:50	Local
News	November 15, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 1:40	Local
News	November 15, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local
News	November 15, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local
News	November 15, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local

News November 17, 2006 10:00PM TRT 0:25 Local
 Jury selection continues in the trial of the couple accused of locking their kids in cages. Attorneys spent the week questioning more than 100 potential jurors. All of the potential jurors have heard about the case. Attorneys hope to have a jury set by the end of the month.

News November 21, 2006 10:00PM TRT 0:25 Local
 A jury is seated in the child endangering trial of Michael and Sharen Gravelle. They are facing 24 criminal counts. The Gravelle's trial is set to start next Wednesday.

News November 27, 2006 10:00PM TRT 0:25 Local
 The trial of the Ohio couple charged with keeping their kids in cages will begin tomorrow. The Gravelles' lawyer wanted it moved out of Huron County because of all the media attention. He also objected to calling the enclosed beds cages because of the harsh implications. The Gravelles have always maintained they did what was best for the children. The plywood and chicken wire weren't meant to punish the kids, but to keep them from hurting each other and themselves. Lawyers in the case released a list of over 100 potential witnesses, and five of the Gravelle's children are expected to testify.

Additional reports

News	November 28, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 2:00	Local
News	November 28, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 1:50	Local
News	November 28, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 1:55	Local
News	November 28, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 1:55	Local
News	November 28, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 1:40	Local
News	November 28, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 1:40	Local
News	November 28, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 2:10	Local
News	November 28, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 1:45	Local
News	November 28, 2006	Noon	TRT 1:45	Local

News November 28, 2006 6:00PM TRT 2:19 Local
 The trial of a local couple accused of keeping some of their children in cages is now underway. Ken Myers, the defense attorney, said "This trial is a travesty. The Gravelles are good people. They're trying to do a difficult job, raising difficult children that were thrown away by the rest of society. Not only will the prosecutor not be able to prove his case, but we're going to put Huron County and all the other public and private agencies that handle these kids on trial."

Though prosecutors say the cages were used for punishment, the Gravelles have defended their use of them as therapeutic to prevent some of their 11 children from harming themselves or others at night. Prosecutors called as their first witness the case worker who started the investigation, and who testified about her first impression of the home. If prosecutors prevail, the Gravelles could land in prison for decades. Prosecution witnesses will argue that as parents the Gravelles did more harm than good.

Additional reports

News	November 28, 2006	5:00PM	TRT 1:27	Local
News	November 28, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 2:05	Local
News	November 29, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 1:40	Local
News	November 29, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 1:50	Local
News	November 29, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local

News November 29, 2006 5:00PM TRT 0:00 Local
 Two former foster children take the stand in the criminal trial of the parents accused of keeping their kids in cages. Though the enclosed beds some of the Gravelle children slept in have gotten most of the attention, jurors in the couple's criminal trial heard what children thought about other disciplinary procedures in the Gravelle home. A boy, now 11, and his 13-year-old sister, testified that they were removed from the Gravelle home six years ago after telling their case workers they were beaten and mistreated by the couple.

Additional reports

News	November 29, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 2:00	Local
News	November 30, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 1:00	Local
News	November 30, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 1:59	Local
News	November 30, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local
News	November 30, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local

News November 30, 2006 10:00PM TRT 1:35 Local
 Today prosecutors continue to portray the Gravelles as criminals. For the detective that decided to remove the Gravelle children from the home, the cages or enclosed beds were just part of what he felt left the children at risk. He noted non-working smoke detectors, an apparent lack of bedding, and wires exposed through a hole in the wall, which he testified may not have even carried a current. Under cross examination the lead investigator also admitted that the children were never actually confined like animals in the beds that he calls cages. Jurors also heard from a social worker who interacted closely with the Gravelles in 2000 and 2001 when they were adopting 5 of their 11 children.

Additional reports

News	November 30, 2006	5:00PM	TRT 0:50	Local
News	December 1, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local
News	December 1, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 0:35	Local
News	December 1, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local
News	December 1, 2006	Noon	TRT 2:00	Local

News December 1, 2006 10:00PM TRT 0:50 Local
 Today jurors heard from a witness who spent four hours in the Gravelle home. Carlisle Smith represented an agency that gives a breather to over-burdened parents. He described Mrs. Gravelle as a racist who treated her children as animals.

Additional reports

News	December 1, 2006	5:00PM	TRT 1:40	Local
News	December 1, 2006	6:00PM	TRT 2:10	Local

News December 5, 2006 6:00PM TRT 2:05 Local
 Witnesses were shocked and offended by discipline they say they witnessed from two parents accused of making their children sleep in so-called cages. What neighbors and visitors say they saw at the home of the Gravelles became ammunition for prosecutors, who are trying to convince jurors that the couple's disciplinary measures are criminal. One neighbor described seeing Michael Gravelle hosing down a child outdoors, in freezing temperatures. Another neighbor suggested the reason the Gravelles took in 11 children was for the money. The same witness said she called Children's Services after seeing Mrs. Gravelle punish a child who came downstairs when the kids were supposed to be getting ready for bed.

Additional reports

News	December 5, 2006	Noon	TRT 1:50	Local
News	December 5, 2006	5:00PM	TRT 1:19	Local
News	December 5, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 1:05	Local
News	December 6, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 1:20	Local
News	December 6, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 1:40	Local
News	December 6, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 0:55	Local
News	December 6, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 0:35	Local

News December 6, 2006 6:00PM TRT 2:10 Local
 The Gravelle's oldest adopted son testified about spending more than eighty-days in a bathroom for wetting his bed. The boy testified their much publicized enclosed beds, or cages, were used as punishment. Jurors got to hear the shrill sound from the alarms that were on the doors. The boy said they lied about how they felt about the beds, testifying he learned to sleep in his without a mattress.

Additional reports

News	December 6, 2006	Noon	TRT 2:00	Local
News	December 6, 2006	5:00PM	TRT 1:17	Local
News	December 6, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 1:47	Local
News	December 7, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 1:00	Local
News	December 7, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 0:55	Local
News	December 7, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 1:41	Local
News	December 7, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 0:55	Local

News December 7, 2006 6:00PM TRT 2:06 Local
 Four more of the children who lived with the Gravelles take the stand. The younger of the Gravelle children were asked to recall life together as a family, in a home where six of them slept in beds often referred to as cages, enclosures they also said were used for punishment. The children testified about discipline in the home, being punished for getting up at night, getting hosed off, and spankings. Most expressed mixed feelings about their parents and the enclosed beds. Though hesitant in court, the children were more open with psychologists, one of whom testified about what one of the children told her about his life with the Gravelles. Under cross-examination the kids also talked about happier times at the Gravelles and one girl admitting she misses them and wanted to give them a hug.

Additional reports

News	December 7, 2006	Noon	TRT 2:00	Local
News	December 7, 2006	5:00PM	TRT 1:45	Local
News	December 7, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 0:50	Local
News	December 8, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 1:55	Local
News	December 8, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 2:10	Local
News	December 8, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 1:40	Local
News	December 8, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 1:40	Local
News	December 8, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 1:40	Local
News	December 8, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 1:40	Local
News	December 8, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 1:30	Local
News	December 8, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 1:30	Local

News December 8, 2006 10:00PM TRT 2:01 Local
 The head of the Huron County Children's Services denies knowing local kids were sleeping in so called cages long before they became a focus of a criminal investigation. After his court appearance he was trying to avoid our questions. David Broehl admitted his agency approved checks that were written to the Gravelles, accepting that the children had special needs. After

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Additional reports

News	December 5, 2006	Noon	TRT 1:50	Local
News	December 5, 2006	5:00PM	TRT 1:19	Local
News	December 5, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 1:05	Local
News	December 6, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 1:20	Local
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News	December 6, 2006	Noon	TRT 2:00	Local
News	December 6, 2006	5:00PM	TRT 1:17	Local
News	December 6, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 1:47	Local
News	December 7, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 1:00	Local
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News	December 7, 2006	Noon	TRT 2:00	Local
News	December 7, 2006	5:00PM	TRT 1:45	Local
News	December 7, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 0:50	Local
News	December 8, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 1:55	Local
News	December 8, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 2:10	Local
News	December 8, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 1:40	Local
News	December 8, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 1:40	Local
News	December 8, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 1:40	Local
News	December 8, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 1:40	Local
News	December 8, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 1:30	Local
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News December 8, 2006 10:00PM TRT 2:01 Local
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making two visits to the Gravelle home himself, Broehl admitted he saw nothing that rose to the level of abuse. Supporters of the Gravelles believe the system set them up for failure, approving them taking on 11 children, then hanging them out to dry. Broehl would accept no responsibility on behalf of the agency he heads for those failures.

News	December 12, 2006	Noon	TRT 2:08	Local
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Defense attorneys for Michael and Sharen Gravelle are expected to ask a judge today to rule that prosecutors have never proven anything after more than two weeks of testimony. Before that happens, jurors are hearing from psychologists hired by Huron County to testify that conditions in the Gravelle home harmed their children psychologically if not physically, and that is enough to convict the couple of child endangering.

Earlier testimony portrayed the Gravelles as subjecting their children to unusually harsh discipline in addition to making some of them sleep in the enclosed beds that are often called cages. Defense attorneys are careful to point out that the psychologist's opinions are just an educated guess and even they cannot say with any certainty what will happen. They will try to convince the judge to dismiss the charges of child endangering without calling any witnesses. The judge is not expected to accept the defense argument that prosecutors have not proven their case, which means perhaps tomorrow the Gravelles will begin calling witnesses in their own defense.

Additional reports

News	December 12, 2006	6:00PM	TRT 1:48	Local
News	December 12, 2006	5:00PM	TRT 1:16	Local
News	December 12, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 0:50	Local
News	December 13, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local
News	December 13, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local
News	December 13, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local

News	December 13, 2006	Noon	TRT 2:15	Local
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Prosecutors have officially rested their case against the Gravelles. Now defense attorneys are asking a judge to drop all of the charges. Evidence and testimony over the last two weeks have focused on more than just the so-called cages that six of their eleven children slept in. Prosecutor Russ Leffler has tried to show that discipline at the home was humiliating and unusually harsh, and that the Gravelles kept getting more and more children to get more money from social services.

Defense attorneys made the argument that there is no proof the children were ever physically harmed in any way, and that prosecutors failed to prove there were any crimes committed beyond a reasonable doubt. It is possible the judge could decide to throw some of the charges out and keep others. It is extremely unlikely he will drop the whole case and let the Gravelles go without them calling witnesses in their defense. We expect to hear their first defense testimony this afternoon.

News	December 13, 2006	5:00PM	TRT 1:58	Local
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Defense attorneys for Michael and Sharen Gravelle started calling witnesses in their defense after a judge rejected their request to throw out all of the charges against them. Prosecutors formally rested after more than two weeks of witnesses and testimony. The judge found that there is sufficient evidence that has been put forth in the states case that reasonable minds could conclude that child abuse had been committed under subsection B-1. The judge left open the possibility that before this is over he could drop the 16 felony charges and substitute lesser charges in their place.

Additional reports

News	December 13, 2006	6:00PM	TRT 1:39	Local
News	December 13, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 0:55	Local
News	December 14, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 0:55	Local
News	December 14, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 1:40	Local
News	December 14, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local
News	December 14, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local

News December 14, 2006 Noon TRT 2:10 Local
 The Gravelle's attorneys are pleading their case in what could be the last day of testimony. The first full day of defense testimony is likely to also be the last, with the jury expected to be deliberating the Gravelle's future as soon as tomorrow. In trying to convict them of child endangering charges, prosecutors have portrayed the Gravelles as abusive, and portrayed the cages as more for the parents convenience.

The Gravelles have maintained that the children had behavioral disorders and would wander at night at risk to themselves and others. Today's first witness was a social worker who worked with the family and approved of the beds. Jurors heard testimony about some of the behavior that helped her make those decisions. The testimony was actually read by an attorney for the social worker from an earlier custody hearing. The social worker isn't appearing in person because she also will be on trial in February on related charges.

Additional reports

News	December 14, 2006	6:00PM	TRT 2:16	Local
News	December 14, 2006	5:00PM	TRT 1:53	Local
News	December 14, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 0:50	Local
News	December 15, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local
News	December 15, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local
News	December 15, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 0:35	Local
News	December 15, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local

News December 15, 2006 5:00PM TRT 1:45 Local
 Today a judge reduced some of the most serious charges against the Gravelles. Defense attorneys for Michael and Sharen Gravelle rested their case today without calling the defendants to testify in their own defense, convinced that the prosecutors had not made their case beyond a reasonable doubt. On at least eight of the most serious offenses the judge agreed. After calling their last witnesses, attorneys for the Gravelles asked the judge to throw out all 24 of the child endangering charges against the couple, arguing that there was just too much speculation and not enough evidence that the kids were ever harmed in any permanent way, in spite of the cage-like beds and other disciplinary methods. The judge decided this afternoon not to acquit them on all of the charges, but on eight of the felonies he said the prosecutor had not proven its case beyond a reasonable doubt and reduced those eight charges to misdemeanors.

Defense attorneys hope that helps show the jury the case wasn't that strong from the beginning. Prosecutor Russ Leffler did not have much to say in leaving the courthouse. The jury will hear closing arguments on Tuesday, after which deliberations will start. The way things stand, even if they are convicted on all of the remaining charges, the sentence doesn't necessarily have to include jail time.

Additional reports

News	December 15, 2006	6:00PM	TRT 1:45	Local
News	December 15, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 1:37	Local

News December 19, 2006 6:00PM TRT 2:13 Local
 After three weeks of testimony and more than a year in the court of public opinion, a jury is finally deciding whether or not Michael and Sharen Gravelle are criminals or just parents who occasionally made poor judgments. Sharen Gravelle shakes her head, disturbed by the portrayal of her and her husband as criminals who caged and abused their eleven children. In their final effort to exonerate the Gravelles, their attorneys first asked for a mistrial, complaining that the prosecutors closing was an exaggeration. The Gravelles attorneys gave jurors as their last impression a picture of parents who may have made questionable decisions but loved their children and did nothing that rose to the level of abuse. The last word however was granted the prosecutor.

Additional reports

News	December 19, 2006	Noon	TRT 2:00	Local
News	December 19, 2006	5:00PM	TRT 1:38	Local
News	December 19, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 1:58	Local
News	December 20, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 0:50	Local
News	December 20, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 0:50	Local
News	December 20, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local
News	December 20, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 0:55	Local

News December 20, 2006 5:00PM TRT 1:20 Local
 There is no verdict yet in the case of two parents on trial for making some of their children, sleep in so-called cages. The first full day of deliberations after three weeks of testimony have ended with no real indication of which way the seven man five woman panel is leaning. That the jurors are still deliberating shows they are not convinced either way on all of the charges. To give you a feel for the work they are doing, here's the verdict sheet they must fill out.

Additional reports

News December 20, 2006 6:00PM TRT 1:15 Local

News December 21, 2006 10:00PM TRT 0:25 Local
 Jurors attempting to decide the fate of the Gravelles, told the judge they wanted to go home and try again on Friday. The panel had even started deliberations an hour and a half early today, and finished up an hour later than usual, but they did not reach a verdict.

Additional reports

News December 21, 2006 5:00PM TRT 1:20 Local

News December 21, 2006 6:00PM TRT 1:33 Local

News December 22, 2006 6:00PM TRT 9:17 Local

We have live team coverage of the trial that has captivated a national audience. Prosecutors didn't convince a jury well enough to get a conviction on all of their charges against Michael and Sharen Gravelle, but the verdict was enough that they could still get some prison time. Jurors found themselves unable to excuse the evidence, the cages that appalled some as abusive, the discipline measures that were admittedly unconventional. The Gravelles were found guilty on only two misdemeanor charges and not guilty on six others. They were found the exact opposite on misdemeanor child abuse charges, guilty of five, not guilty of three. On felony endangering charges four guilty and four not guilty

Supporters of the Gravelles have long blamed Children's Services and others in the county for over reacting and embellishing the accusations. The county took some criticism for not doing something sooner. Sheriff Dick Sutherland believes today's verdict will change things forever in Huron County. Defense attorneys say there will be an appeal and the Gravelles will be exonerated

The Gravelles will be sentenced in February, and Mr. Gravelle said afterwards that they are not done fighting. Jurors returned a guilty verdict against parents on trial for making some of their children sleep in so called cages.

The Gravelle case prompted the state of Ohio to look at its rules and regulations. How many special needs children should one family have? Sweeping reforms were promised. After three weeks of testimony, eight of the felony charges were reduced to misdemeanors due to a lack of evidence.

Additional reports

News December 22, 2006 10:00PM TRT 6:15 Local

News December 24, 2006 8:00AM TRT 2:52 Local

FAMILY/SOCIAL WELFARE

Issue: Operation Giving Tree

This Friday December 15, we will be collecting gifts for Operation Giving Tree right here at Fox 8. We need new toys for the nearly 3000 children in foster care in Cuyahoga County. All kinds of toys like dolls, toy tea sets, games, cars and action figures are great for smaller children. For the older kids bath and body products and cd players as well as gift cards worth \$25 or more make great gifts too. Your gift must be new and unwrapped. You can drop gifts off at the Fox 8 studios at 5800 South Marginal Road just off of I-90 between 5am and 730pm. Please help give Cuyahoga County foster children a special Christmas this year.

News December 13, 2006 5:00PM TRT 2:40 Local
 The gifts will benefit nearly 3000 children in foster care in Cuyahoga County. While some children want the world for Christmas there are others who would be grateful for just one gift, one single act of kindness. You can help make that happen. With Operation Giving Tree we hope you will donate new toys, dolls, games, cds, gift cards, etc.

Additional reports

News	December 13, 2006	6:00PM	TRT 2:44	Local
News	December 13, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 0:45	Local
News	December 14, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 2:40	Local
News	December 14, 2006	6:00AM	TRT 0:40	Local
News	December 14, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 0:30	Local
News	December 14, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 2:30	Local
News	December 14, 2006	Noon	TRT 0:30	Local

News December 14, 2006 5:00PM TRT 3:12 Local
 We are less than one day away, from Operation Giving Tree. Starting tomorrow at 5am, Fox 8 will be collecting toys for more than 3000 children in Cuyahoga County. The tree is here and so are some of the gifts. What you see here is only the beginning of what we hope will be an exciting and successful day of giving.

Yesterday we told you about six year old Ricardo Hunter who wanted so much for Christmas but his grandmother told him she will only be able to give him a little. After hearing Ricardo's story many of called in offering help. The Lewis family in South Euclid decided to buy Ricardo a new bike to replace the one that was stolen. The Lewis family is not rich but they wanted to do something to help Ricardo have a Merry Christmas. This is what operation giving tree is all about.

Additional reports

News	December 14, 2006	6:00PM	TRT 6:30	Local
News	December 14, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 0:45	Local

News December 15, 2006 5:00-9:00AM TRT 30:00 Local
 Kenny Crumpton is out with helpers from Cuyahoga County collecting gifts that Fox 8 viewers are dropping off.

Additional reports

News	December 15, 2006	Noon	TRT 3:00	Local
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News December 15, 2006 5:00PM TRT 6:00 Local
 Operation Giving Tree is still in full swing. We have crews waiting for you to come down and donate toys for the needy. Say what you want about northeast Ohio but we certainly know how to take care of our own. Since the break of dawn people have been driving to the Fox 8 studios and dropping off gifts. This is a live look inside our lobby. Toys, bears, bath and body products you name it, it's pretty much there in the lobby. Believe it or not a man drove up and donated a PS-3 today.

Here live on South Marginal Road, we have singers from Avon Lake High School and Santa helpers from Mentor High School. We had so many people come and stop by and some shared with us why they decided to take the drive to make a donation.

Additional reports

News	December 15, 2006	6:00PM	TRT 7:45	Local
News	December 15, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 1:15	Local

News December 16, 2006 6:00PM TRT 1:00 Local
 A big thank you to everyone who came down Friday and helped Fox 8 make Christmas brighter for so many foster children through our Operation Giving Tree. There were mountains of toys brought into our station.

Additional reports

News	December 16, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 1:36	Local
News	December 16, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 1:33	Local

News December 18, 2006 Noon TRT 1:35 Local
 We asked for your help and you delivered in a big way. The Fox-8 Operation Giving Tree was a huge success. Our viewers dropped off thousands of gifts and volunteers are now wrapping the gifts.

News December 18, 2006 5:00PM TRT 0:00 Local
 Operation Giving Tree is now in its final stage. Fox 8's Suzanne Stratford joins us live from the wrapping room where volunteers are hard at work. All of the donated items must be tagged and wrapped so that they're ready for Christmas. It's been an overwhelming process. Volunteers from Children and Family Services are wrapping gifts and we have a group of high school students from Mentor High helping out as well as Fox 8 employees and personalities..

Additional reports

News	December 18, 2006	6:00PM	TRT 1:42	Local
News	December 18, 2006	10:00PM	TRT 0:50	Local
News	December 19, 2006	5:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local
News	December 19, 2006	7:00AM	TRT 0:50	Local
News	December 19, 2006	8:00AM	TRT 0:45	Local
News	December 19, 2006	Noon	TRT 0:42	Local

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Public service announcements were aired for the organizations listed below during the fourth quarter of 2006.

Adoption	March of Dimes
American Dental Association	Marines Pride of Nation
Autism – Car Seat	Matchsticks
Big Brothers/Big Sisters	Mentor – Various
Blind Date Dogs	Missing Children
Break Your Heart	My Wonderful World
Buckle Up Cars	Nature Explore
CSU Athletic Program	OAB Break Heart
Champions in Action	Open Childs Mind
Classroom Honesty	Open Your Mind
Cystic Fibrosis Wine Opener	Partners for a Drug-Free America-Variou
DAV Give Back Vets	Pool
FBL – Character	Precious Cargo
Forces of Nature	Ravenna Foreclosure
FOX V Chip	Runaway Switchboard
FOX Kaiser	Shriners
FOX Ovarian Cancer	Smart Seats
FOX TV Ratings	Thyroid
Garfield on Writing	Tree/Rotary
Girls & Boys Town	US Navy Pictures
Habitat Build It	
Help wanted	
Here Kitty, Kitty	
In Their Own Words	
MSS-Dreams	

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS PROJECTS
October-November-December 2006

THE CLEVELAND WINE OPENER (Cystic Fibrosis Foundation)

Friday, October 13

FOX 8 sponsored the Cystic Fibrosis Cleveland Wine Opener, part of a national wine tasting series featuring great wine and sumptuous cuisine from the area's finest restaurants. FOX 8's Wilma Smith served as mistress of ceremonies and the station produced and ran :20 and :10 PSA's promoting the event. We also provided day-of coverage of the event. The local chapter of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation raised more than \$76,000 toward awareness and a cure for the disease.

GIVING TREE (Cuyahoga County Children's Services)

November and December

FOX 8 was a participating sponsor of The Giving Tree this holiday season. On the trees were paper ornaments with a child's name and a Christmas gift request. People were asked to take an ornament from the tree and buy the gift requested for that child. The Giving Trees benefited children under the care of Cuyahoga County Children's Services and many were waiting for permanent adoption. FOX 8 set up a Giving Tree for station employees who wanted to take part.

FOX 8 NIGHT AT CSU (Cleveland State University Athletic Program)

Saturday, November 11

FOX 8 sponsored a Cleveland State basketball game. FOX 8's Tony Rizzo served as the emcee for the game and halftime events. The station ran and produced a :20 PSA promoting the event which raised some much needed funds for the university's athletic program.

AKRON SIGNATURE CHEFS AUCTION (March of Dimes)

Monday, October

FOX 8 sponsored the March of Dimes Akron Signature Chefs Auction. The Chef's Auction is a prestigious annual event that pays tribute to the culinary excellence of chefs in Akron. Attendees are given the chance to sample specialties from the area's finest chefs. The tasting is followed by a live and silent auction. FOX 8's Todd Meany emceed the event and the station produced and ran a :15 PSA promoting the event. We also provided day-of news coverage.

LAKE SIGNATURE CHEFS AUCTION (March of Dimes)

Monday, November 6

FOX 8 sponsored the March of Dimes Lake Signature Chefs Auction. The Chef's Auction is a prestigious annual event that pays tribute to the culinary excellence of chefs in Lake County. Attendees are given the chance to sample specialties from the area's finest chefs. The tasting is followed by a live and silent auction. FOX 8's Kenny Crumpton emceed the event and the station produced and ran a :15 PSA promoting the event. We also provided day-of news coverage and had guests from the March of Dimes on our Sunday morning show. Several area chefs from this event were also featured on our morning show, which provided additional promotion of the event.

CLEVELAND SIGNATURE CHEFS AUCTION

Monday, November 20

FOX 8 sponsored the March of Dimes Cleveland Signature Chefs Auction. The Chef's Auction is a prestigious annual event that pays tribute to the culinary excellence of chefs in Cuyahoga County. Attendees are given the chance to sample specialties from the area's finest chefs. The tasting is followed by a live and silent auction. FOX 8's Wayne Dawson emceed the event and the station produced and ran a :15 PSA promoting the event. We also provided day-of news coverage and had guests from the March of Dimes on our Sunday morning show. Several area chefs from this event were also featured on our morning show, which provided additional promotion of the event.

CHAMPIONS IN ACTION (Access, Inc.)

October - December 2006

FOX 8 and Charter One teamed up to begin the Champion In Action Program, an initiative designed to reward the nonprofit organizations that work to champion change in our communities. This quarter's winner was Access, Inc. Access, Inc. provides over 10,000 bed nights and 32,000 meals to more than 600 women and children annually. They also develop children's programs and provide support for women to get the help that they need to get back on their feet. FOX 8 produced and aired two, :20 psa's for this organization, and also ran a story on the organization to raise public awareness. FOX 8 purchased gifts for the mother's at the shelter and station employees volunteered to bake cookies with the children currently at the shelter for Christmas.

OPERATION GIVING TREE (Dept. of Children & Family Services)

Friday, December 15

FOX 8 hosted a drive "Operation Giving Tree." Viewers were asked to drop off gifts for children in foster care. FOX 8 viewers donated thousands of toys and gifts. This drive provided more than 3,000 foster children in Cuyahoga County with gifts for Christmas. So many toys were brought to FOX 8 that they were able to deliver toys to foster children in surrounding counties as well.